

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 8, 2004. No claims have been amended herein. Claims 1-10 are now pending.

Claim 3

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Fitzpatrick. This Section 102(b) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 3 requires that "*at a time point when a file icon of a file to be printed is superposed on said print icon, a printing preview of the file icon is displayed on said display picture.*" Fitzpatrick fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of claim 3. It is known in the art that a "printing preview" as called for in claim 3 is an image of what is going to be printed (e.g., see Fig. 7 of the instant application which clearly states this). Fitzpatrick does not display such a printing preview of the file icon when the file icon is superposed on the print icon. There is absolutely nothing in Fitzpatrick even remotely related to this aspect of claim 3. The cited art is entirely unrelated to the invention of claim 3, and the Section 102(b) rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 9

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Fitzpatrick and Hemenway. This Section 103(a) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 9 requires that "said print control operation system is formed so as to *create a print icon having new print conditions set therein, when a predetermined plurality of print icons displayed on said display screen and respectively having different print conditions are coupled.*" In other words, a new printing icon is created by coupling a plurality of previous or other print icons that were displayed. For example, and without limitation, the instant specification explains that a new printing icon having both multi-shot and stapling functions is created when a previous printing icon having stapling is dragged and dropped on a previous print icon having multi-shot (e.g., pg. 16, line 22 to pg. 17, line 16).

Fitzpatrick fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of claim 9. In particular, the cited art fails to disclose or suggest coupling a plurality of different printer icons in order to create a new printer icon. The Examiner's contention that this is "inherent" on page 7 of the Office Action is clearly incorrect and unsupported. Fitzpatrick is entirely unrelated to the invention of claim 9 in this respect, and discloses nothing relating thereto.

Claim 1

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Fitzpatrick and Hemenway. This Section 103(a) rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 requires that "the print icon is formed so that the display is altered according to a setting of the print conditions in said print icon, and said print conditions are displayed on said display picture in a recognizable display form without having to

locate the file icon on the print icon." The cited art fails to disclose or suggest this aspect of claim 1.

Fitzpatrick discloses that a dragged document icon is hovered over a print icon for a few seconds. By continued hovering of the document icon over/on the print icon, a dialog box for altering print conditions is displayed. Thus, in Fitzpatrick print conditions are displayed only when such hovering is performed. Accordingly, it can be seen that Fitzpatrick *fails* to disclose or suggest that "print conditions are displayed on said display picture in a *recognizable display form* without having to locate the file icon on the print icon" as required by claim 1. Instead, Fitzpatrick teaches directly away from this aspect of claim 1 and cannot render the same unpatentable.

Hemenway also fails to disclose or suggest that "print conditions are displayed on said display picture in a *recognizable display form* without having to locate the file icon on the print icon" as required by claim 1. Since both cited references fail to disclose or suggest at least the "recognizable display form" aspect of claim 1, then even the alleged combination (which is incorrect in any event) fails to meet the invention of claim 1. With this claimed feature, it becomes possible in certain example embodiments for an operator to easily recognize the print condition without performing any specific operation.

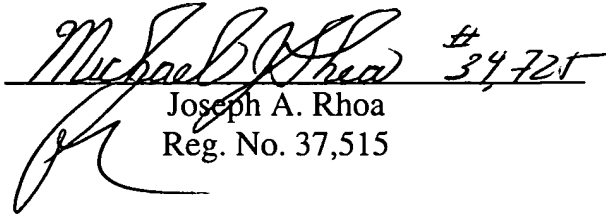
Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn. All claims are in condition for allowance. If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

NAKAI et al.
Appl. No. 09/833,651
July 6, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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